

**Brian D. O'Connell**Regional Director
State Government Relations

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September 24, 2018

The Honorable Gary Glenn Chairman, House Energy Committee Michigan House of Representatives P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909

## Dear Chairman Glenn:

For more than a hundred years now, Michigan has been the cradle of automotive design, production and, most importantly, innovation. It's a distinction this state holds proudly, and one I'm sure Michiganders collectively intend to keep. General Motors is proud of its place in that legacy, and as a company, we intend to do our part to see that Michigan remains at the center of the automotive world. To that end, I ask that you support the passage SB 637, legislation that will be important in Michigan's effort to continue to lead the way in automotive technology.

Self-driving vehicles are the future of transportation, and it's an exciting future that is just now starting to unfold. Soundly tested, scaled and implemented, driverless technology will unlock a superior, and more importantly, safer driving experiencing.

A big part of that picture relates to connectivity in vehicles. As we continue to develop self-driving vehicles and services like OnStar, expanded network capabilities will continue to allow us to innovate and provide our customers with safer mobility and a richer experience in the vehicle.

Small cell technology is part of that foundation, and SB 637 streamlines the procedures associated with deploying this critical technology in municipalities across the state, clearing the way for wireless providers to confidently invest in this game-changing advancement.

The decision here is clear. As the first state to pass comprehensive autonomous vehicle legislation, Michigan has already demonstrated its commitment to pioneering this

burgeoning field. It's time to follow our own example and lead again, this time by passing SB 637.

Again, one hundred years later, Michigan is poised to usher in a new era of transportation. I ask that you reflect on that possibility and ultimately make the right choice for Michigan and its automotive industry by supporting the passage of SB 637.

Sincerely,

Brian D. O'Connell

Regional Director, State Government Relations



September 27, 2018

The Honorable Gary Glenn Michigan House of Representatives P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Representative Glenn,

On behalf of the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, a member driven business organization of over 700 members in the Great Lakes Bay Region, we urge you to support SB 637. Improving small cell development is critically important for local economic development and advancement of innovation for Michigan.

Successful businesses begin with communication. The rapid increase in data traffic and wireless connectivity has put a strain on communication infrastructure and Michigan must stay at the forefront of streamlining and updating to keep up with the demands of businesses and consumers. Deploying small cell technology will ease the burden of the growing stress placed on the network. First, we must work to establish a consistent regulatory environment that encourages wireless providers to invest in the network enhancements that will drive businesses and our economy forward.

The proposed Small Cell Techology legislation fills the holes in our infrastructure by formalizing and creating consistency in the process of installing and maintaining small cell wireless devices in a municipal right-of-way. This is the step towards next generation technology which is the driving force in economic development. Advancements such as 5G networks and developments in the Internet of Things play a crucial role in the state's continued effort to lead the way in development of autonomous vehicles.

This legislation will drive economic advancement within our state for the next generation. Michigan cannot miss this opportunity to grow. For the best interest of businesses and consumers in Bay County, we strongly encourage you to support SB 637.

Ryan Tarrant

Sincerely.

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House Energy Committee ATTN: Chairman Gary Glenn H-372 Capitol Building Lansing, MI 48933

October 1, 2018

Dear Chairman Glenn.

On behalf of the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, I encourage you to support SB 637—legislation that will keep this this community, and Michigan as a whole, on the leading edge of innovation.

The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce represents over 1,100 businesses and individuals. It's an expansive and diverse association and each member faces its own unique set of challenges and priorities. However, there is common linkage here: Regardless of industry, access to constant, fast, reliable wireless connectivity is quickly becoming vital to success of any business in today's rapidly-moving economy.

Like consumers, companies are increasingly relying on their smartphones, tablets and other wireless devices to conduct business and stay connected to their clients and employees, and that activity is placing a tremendous strain on our wireless infrastructure. And s pressure on mobile networks mount, it is crucial that policymakers support innovative efforts to bolster the wireless infrastructure upon which we all rely.

SB 637 opens the door to one such innovative solution. Creating a regulatory environment that encourages the deployment of small cell technology in high traffic areas throughout the state will go a long way towards ensuring consumers and businesses alike continue to enjoy the wireless access they want and need.

The way people use technology is evolving, and Michigan need to keep pace or risk being left behind. The importance of small cells goes far beyond alleviating the present strain on mobile networks. This technology will help lay the foundation for 5G, the Internet of Things, autonomous vehicles and countless other innovations that will fundamentally change the way we live work and interact. And communities with cutting-edge infrastructures will be ripe to attract the investment dollars and businesses that will develop and use the wireless tools of the not-so-distant future.

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Lansing needs to position itself to be a part of that next way of growth and development, and smart policy will help get us there. For this reason, and on behalf of the Chamber and the rest of the local business community, I ask that you support SB 637.

Sincerely,

Steven D. Japinga

**Director, Government Relations** 

**Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce** 



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October 1, 2018

Honorable Gary Glenn Michigan House of Representatives H-372 Capitol Building P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Chairman Glenn,

I am writing to urge you as the chairman of the House Energy Policy Committee and your colleagues in the Michigan House of Representatives to support Senate Bill 637 regarding small cell technology. The Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber has endorsed Michigan Senate Bill 637 concerning streamlining the process of deploying small cell technology. The bill will provide a pathway in our region for important innovation that will increase wireless capacity in high traffic areas. The legislation eliminates patchwork regulations and will allow for a cost-effective process for installing and maintaining small cell wireless facilities, thereby providing wider distribution at a lower cost to customers and having a positive impact on our members, the southern Wayne County region and all of Michigan.

The Southern Wayne County Regional Chamber applauds the Michigan Senate and all parties involved in the negotiation and passing of Senate Bill 637. We believe that this legislation will provide an efficient pathway for critical technological investments in our region. The Chamber is joining business leaders from across our state in calling for our friends in the Michigan House of Representatives to pass this bill and provide our businesses and residents the opportunity for access to small cell technology needed in areas where data is in high demand.

Chairman Glenn, I am very grateful for your attention, consideration and support of this legislation. Please feel free to contact me if you should have any questions.

Sincerely,

Ronald J. Hinrichs

President

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